Central Intelligence Agency



Washington, D. C. 20505

28 AUG 1984

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DHS review completed.

Dear Mr. Giuffrida:

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Thank you for your letter soliciting our advice on how your
intelligence needs can best be met. I believe we can improve our
support to your organization. I have appointed
Deputy Director of the Office of Current Production and Analytic
Support in the Directorate of Intelligence, to work with
Mr. Williams in reviewing how intelligence is currently provided to
FEMA, and to propose any necessary additional measures.
can be reached on

Access to the information systems cited in your letter -- SAFE and DESIST -- may not be the best means for providing the information you need. SAFE in particular is intended to support research and analysis, not to provide current reporting or indications and warning. In addition, DCI security policy, based on the legal requirement to protect sources and methods, precludes providing such access to the information in SAFE. The DESIST system is oriented toward overseas rather than domestic terrorist activity, but it may be applicable to your needs. Messers. and williams can review your requirements and the information available in the system and make a recommendation to me.

There are existing and planned activities other than SAFE and DESIST that will increase our intelligence support to your operation. For example, the National Intelligence Daily is provided to you and some members of your staff. Recently, senior Federal Emergency Managment Agency (FEMA) officers met with the Associate Deputy Director for Intelligence of CIA and the National Intelligence Officer for Warning to discuss intelligence support to FEMA mobilization planning and exercises. This effort is resulting in an examination of ways to obtain earlier warning of Soviet intentions. In addition, the White House Crisis Information Management System (Project MEDUSA), for which FEMA and CIA are key nodes, would appear to offer the best solution when it goes into effect. Also, especially as regards terrorist trends, you might want to explore a way of sharing information available to the FBI.

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	Sincerely,
	John N. McMahon
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Federal Emergency Management Agency

Washington, D.C. 20472

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Executive Registry
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Honorable John N. McMahon Deputy Director Central Intelligence Agency Washington, DC 20505

Dear Mr. McMahon:

- (U) The course of events over the past 3 years has served to confirm my initial belief that a means must be devised to ensure more timely receipt of all-source current intelligence and criticom reporting here at the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). The present program depends on courier service, which is adequate support during routine conditions. The essence of FEMA's mission, however, is to provide leadership in orchestrating timely responses by the Federal civil departments and agencies to nonroutine crisis situations. The Agency is called upon to make major contributions during all situations involving civil mobilization, continuity of government, civil defense, economic stabilization, resource management, response to the effects of terrorism and other extraordinary situations. During such situations an avoidable delay in reaction time, of even a minute's duration, could well convert a potentially successful reaction into an outright failure.
- (C) Preparatory steps to improve FEMA's capabilities in this area have been taken. A secure vault, appropriate for the presentation and storage of all-source intelligence, has been constructed at FEMA in accordance with specifications provided by your Agency's Office of Security. The critical next step is the selection and installation of Intelligence Community-sponsored secure computer terminals within the FEMA vault to satisfy this Agency's requirements for timely intelligence reporting during crisis situations.
- (S) My staff has recommended the installation of the two computer terminals identified below for this purpose. A terminal hosted onto the SAFE IBM system is proposed as the most appropriate tool for timely receipt of current foreign intelligence and criticom reporting, while a DESIST terminal has been identified as the most suitable piece of equipment for addressing the Agency's needs for timely data flow concerning the domestic environment.
- (U) I earnestly solicit your advice and support in this matter. If you concur that the installation of the two terminals identified above will contribute significantly to satisfying FEMA's need for timely current intelligence reporting, then I request that an action officer from your Agency be designated to coordinate FEMA's acquisition and installation

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of the equipment. I have already designated my Acting Associate Director, Emergency Operations, Mr. William F. Williams (287-0075), to serve as FEMA's point of contact for this task.

(U) I appreciate your consideration of this problem and look forward to being the beneficiary of your advice.

Sincerely,

Louis O. Giuffr

Director

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